1947

Public Works (1947)

Closed 29.11.47

Secret

Secret D O. No. 4401 R/47-4 dt 29.11.47

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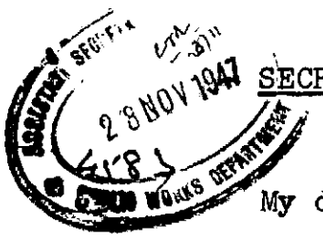

SECRET - IMMEDIATE:

Bellary Collector's Bungalow,
19th November 1947.

My dear Varghese,

Your D.O 4401-R-47-2 dated 12th Nov '47

Bellary Aerodrome - Repairs.

It is a fact that the lands including the Runaways were de-requisitioned and handed over to the owners. It was then estimated that it would cost Rs.40,000/- to remove the metal completely from the strips and make the lands fit for cultivation. The Rev. Divl. Officer however persuaded the owners not to press for the cost of removal of the metal in the runaways to make it fit for cultivation. The ryots have taken possession of the lands and are slowly removing the metal and selling it off in heaps for road making, etc. They have not however removed even one-tenth of the total quantity.

2/ We can easily persuade the ryots to hand it back to us on the same conditions as they had done previously.

3/ I have inspected the runaways. The High ways Engineer also has inspected it. As the damage done by the ryots is only superficial and as they have not yet removed and carted away much of the metal, it would in his opinion be possible to restore it with a cost of Rs.40,000/- to its original condition. We have got four Steam Road Rollers to consolidate the area. Water is available near at hand and the Fire Engine at Bellary can be utilised for spraying water for quick consolidation. We have only to spread the metal heaps, spread gravel over it, consolidate it by rolling with heavy rollers. I have also mentioned these facts in my fortnightly confidential report dated 13th Nov.47 to the Chief Secretary. The Engineer assured me that we could easily put it in order in 15 days.

The Rev. Divl. Officer has already hinted to the owners that they should not meddle with the Aerodrome further. The repairs to the Aerodrome would go a long way in infusing confidence in the public that help could be

could be rushed in at short notice.

Yours sincerely,
K. Anantha Ramaiah
19.xi.47

T.A. Varghese Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, P.W. Department,
Fort St. George. M a d r a s.

P.W.D.(R)

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D.O.No. 4401-R/47-1 dated 29. 11. 47.

My dear Anantaraman,

Bellary Aerodrome - Repairs.

Mr. 3-4 Gf. Ref: Your D.O. of the 19th November, 1947.

I am ~~directed~~ desired to say that the permanent airfield at Bellary, though small, would be sufficient, and that the question of undertaking repairs to the derequisitioned aerodrome may be dropped.

28/11/47

Yours sincerely,

To

K.N.Anantaraman Esq.,
I. C.S.,
Collector of Bellary.

K
1 JAN 1943
208

CTN 07/1142

PUBLIC (GENERAL-A) DEPARTMENT.

Extract from the fortnightly report received from the Commissioner of Police, Madras and the District Magistrate for the first half of Nov' 1942.

BELLARY:

I got the question of repairing the strip in the emergency landing round, examined by the Executive Engineer (Highways). He feels that he can do it within 15 days within a cost of 1 lakh, Considering the importance of the subject this sum cannot be considered to be too much at all. The Highways Engineer inspected the Aerodrome strip which is above 1500 yards in length and has assured me that there is every possibility of getting the work done within a fortnight if the Government is pleased to order us. I feel that the repair of this strip will go a long way in creating confidence in the minds of the public that military aid could be rushed in a moments notice. I request that this question may be taken up as early as possible and orders passed.

/true extract/
Forwarded / By order

SUPERINTENDENT.

To the Public Works Department.

Bhp.9/1.

Please see the extract from the fortnightly report received from the Commissioner of Police, Madras and the Dt Magistrate, Bellary for the first half of Nov' 1947 relating to repairs to the Military Emergency Landing Ground at Bellary, on p 1 ante. This question was already raised by the D.M. Bellary in his D.O. d 11-11-47 to the Chief Secretary: in that connection the Collr of Bellary also made a reference to the report on p1 ante in his D.O. d 15-19-47. It was finally decided in circulation that the question might be dropped as the permanent airfield at Bellary though small would be sufficient and the Collr was informed accordingly. No action seems called for on the extract on p1 ante. May be filed with Secret D.O. 4401 R/47-4 P.W. d 29.11.47.

Extract of D.O. on p1 of file no. 4401 R/47-4 Pub d 11.47 as (A)

'B' on p3 of (A)

Extract in Collr's D.O. and D.O. on p3 of (A)

(A)

Box

2-1-48

1/1/48

1/1

P.W.D.(R).

Extract from the Secret D.O., from theCollector, Bellary dated 11-11-'47.

4. The Sub-Area Commander said that due to many reasons, he did not think it practicable to station Military now in Bellary or Kurnool but suggested that the Aerodrome now in Bellary recently abandoned by the Military may be got into order urgently.

x x x

8. The Government may consider the advisability of repairing the Aerodrome (The Emergency Military Aerodrome) about which I have already reported. If we keep it in repairs, it might be of great use even for civil aviation. It will also create fear in the heart of aggressors that military aid can be rushed in easily and would deter them from mischief.

This should be taken up atonce.

Id. K.R.M. 13-11. C.S.

Pub.(S.C.).

Please see paras 4 and 8 of the D.O. on pp.1-3 ante from the D.M. of Bellary and C.S's orders in the margin against the latter para. The file may be sent to P.W.D. who may be requested to take relevant extracts for urgent action, w.r.t. C.S.'s orders. Home may also see with ref. to the suggestion in para 9 on page 2 supra and take extracts for separate action.

The other points raised by the D.M. will be examined on return of the file from Home.

P.M.N. 14-11.

&P.W.D.(R)-

Para 8 of D.O.

The Bellary aerodrome, south of Bellary has one runway "E.W. 1000" (which probably means that it runs East and West and is 1000Feet long). It is surplus to

the requirements of Air Headquarters (India) and the Director General of Civil Aviation. In Bellary Collector's Ref.L.Dis. 2221/47-B5, dated 18-3-'47, he reported that the lands including runways etc., were de-requisitioned and handed back to the owners. It is not known whether the land owners have demolished the runways etc., and whether it is possible to restore them. Extract of para 8 will be taken for necessary action.

A.D.O. to the Collector will issue atonce. Extracts taken

Id. TA. 14-1

Meanwhile I would suggest that the Defence Department may be addressed to maintain this aerddrome in a fit condition atleast for emergency landing during the present unrest. Apart from the runways, it may be necessary to install Wireless Apparatus etc., if it is to be made use of on a large scale.

P.C.M. 14-11. T.A.V. 14-11.

P.W.D(R)

With reference to Z above, a draft D.O. to the Collr. of Bellary is submitted below for approval.

D.S.

Bot

14.11.47

15/11

... may be

The last sentence of the D.O. is really a matter which should be examined in Public if the Aerodrome is all put into order it is all the more necessary to guard it under present conditions. Perhaps the last sentence may be omitted from the draft of the Collr. We first Pub may take note of the fact & take action accordingly if when it is finally decided to put the aerodrome into order.

14/11/47

S/1946/4

CHIEF SECRETARY 15 NOV 1947 GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS P.W.D

The notes of P.W.D. on pp. 1-2 ante may be The file has been sent to this Dept. w.r.t. the last sentence in the draft D.O. below to the Collr. of Bellary. It is subd. that invasion by the Nizam's forces seems unlikely, and ~~even if~~ such an eventuality takes place, it would mean that a state of war exists between the Indian Dominion and the Hyderabad State. It would then be for the Military to provide the necessary guard for the airfield. All that seems necessary is to instruct the Collr. to make arrangements to have the repaired airfield guarded by the Police.

2. In this connection it may be mentioned that in a separate D.O. (not available at present) the Collr. has reported that the ryots had begun to remove the metalled runway strips on the airfield.

With these remarks the file may be returned to P.W.D.

17/11/47 17/11/47

Pub (SC)
Mp No-S/1776-1/47
17/11/47

17/11/47
C.S.
17/11

P.W.D.

H.E. I have amended the D.O.
It may come
18/11/47

P.W.D(R)

(Issued as D.O.No.4401R/47-1, dated 18-11-1947)

From the Collector of Bellary, D.O. dated 19--11--1947.

Please see the D.O. to the Collector of Bellary on p.1 c.f. and his reply on pp.3-4 c.f.

The Collector has reported that the ryots have taken possession of the lands of the derequisitioned Bellary Aerodrome and are slowly removing the metal and selling it off in heaps for road-making etc. He considers that they have not removed even one-tenth of the total quantity of metal and that they can be easily pursuaded to hand back the land to Govt. on

on the same conditions as they did previously. The Revenue Divl. Officer has also already hinted to the owners that they should not meddle with the derequisitioned aerodrome further.

The Collector and the Divisional Engineer (Highways), Bellary have inspected the runways. The Divisional Engineer considers that as the damage done by the ryots is only superficial and as they have not yet removed and carted away much of the metal, it would be possible to restore the aerodrome to its original condition at a cost of Rs.40 000/-.

It is for orders whether pending receipt of the detailed estimates for the work, the Collector may be asked to proceed with the work and have the aerodrome restored to its original condition immediately. Public, Revenue and Finance may see for remarks. Finance may also be requested to indicate the financial procedure that should be adopted in this case.

This is a point on which Part should obtain orders of Govt

Public (S.C.

The notes of P.W. Dept. from 'X' on p. 3 ante may be read The Divisional Engineer (Highways) considers that the airfield can be restored to its original condition at a cost of Rs. 40,000/-. The Collr. states that this would go a long way to infuse confidence in the public. The point for orders, therefore is whether, pending receipt of detailed estimates for the work, the Collr. may be asked to proceed with the repairs to the airfield so as to have it ready as soon as possible. It may be mentioned in this connection that there is also the permanent ordinary airfield at Bellary which, though small, is in good condition and still in use.- please see Collr's report on pp. 3-5 c.f. in L.F. Subd. for orders.

para 3, page 3 c/f.

para 4, ibid

This matter was discussed the other day in H/M's room when Major Genl Shri Naresh also was present. It was felt that the permanent airfield might remain, the Superintendent that the question of undertaking repairs to the other airfield may be dropped.

Pl may please circulate to H/M

Pub(SC)
WD No.5/1921.
29/11/21.

P.W.Deptt.(R)

This file deals with the question of repairs to the Emergency Landing ground at Bellary.

During the last war, lands to the extent of about 200 acres were requisitioned and a Military Emergency Landing Ground was constructed at Bellary. On the termination of the War, this Landing Ground was rendered surplus to the requirements of the Air Headquarters (India) and the Director-General of Civil Aviation, and it was therefore derequisitioned and the lands were handed back to the owners.

In his D.O. dated 11.11.1947, the Collector of Bellary reported that the Sub-Area Commander suggested that the abandoned aerodrome might be got into order urgently. In this Department D.O. dated 18th November, 1947, the Collector was asked to report whether the owners had demolished the runways etc. and whether it was possible to restore them and if so the nature and extent of the work to be done. The Collector after inspecting the runways etc. with the Divisional Engineer (Highways), Bellary, reported that the damage done by the ryots was only superficial and that as they had not removed and carted away much of the metal, it would be possible to restore the aerodrome to its original

condition at a cost of Rs.40,000. The R.D.O., Bellary has also hinted to the owners of lands that they should not meddle with the derequisitioned aerodrome further.

The Chief Secretary has remarked that the matter was discussed in H.P.M's room when Major-General Shri Nagesh was also present and it was felt that the permanent airfield, though small (about 54 acres in extent and about 3 miles away from Bellary) would be sufficient and that the question of undertaking repairs to the derequisitioned Emergency Landing ground might be dropped. In the above circumstances the Collector of Bellary may be told that the question of repairs to the derequisitioned airfield may be dropped. A draft D.O. is submitted below for approval.

The file may be circulated to H.M.(P.W) and Hon. Premier.

D & E in (W)

(Issued as D.O. (Confl) No 4401 R/47-4 dated 29.11.47)

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
(Public Works Department)

Copy of D.O., dated 4-11-1947 from the Collector of Bellary to the Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.

2. There are now two Air Fields in Bellary -- one is the permanent ordinary Air Field, though small, is in good condition. As the soil is gravelly it can be used all the year round. During the last war the Military prepared another strip on the southern side of the Road. This strip had been handed over to the ryots as we did not acquire the lands outright. They are slowly making the land ~~land~~ ready for cultivation by removing the metal. I am enclosing herewith an eye-sketch and a note about the state of the Aerodromes. I inspected both of them yesterday. If required I can stop the ryots from causing further damage to the metalled strip in the new aerodrome.

/True copy/

Enclosure.

Note on the state of the Aerodromes in Bellary.

There are two aerodromes in Bellary. One is in S.No. 966 of Bellary village measuring 54.12 Acs., and it has been in use since a long time. There was another one in use during the last war as emergency landing ground. That compromises some lands of Bellary village and some others of Kolagal village. These are patta lands and they were requisitioned during war and have since been de-requisitioned after the close of the war The aerodrome in S.No.966 is still in use. Both the aerodromes are shown in red ink in the enclosed sketch. The existing aerodrome is at a distance of about 3 miles from Bellary town and the emergency landing ground is at a distance of about 3 to 4 miles. The extent of the latter is about 200 acres.

/True copy/